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EGYPT: Security Precautions

Egyptian security forces are on alert to prevent a repetition of the unrest in Asyut, but no other serious security problems have developed so far.

Military and police forces are being particularly watchful in Cairo, where there were two small terrorist incidents on Thursday. In Asyut the regime claims to have quelled the Islamic fundamentalist terrorists who reportedly killed 75 policemen in two days of clashes.

President-designate Moubarek is continuing efforts to reassure Egypt's allies of his commitment to former President Sadat's policies. Moubarek met with Sudanese President Nimeiri yesterday

Israelis Watchful

Moubarek yesterday met with Israeli Prime Minister Begin, and the Israelis appear cautiously encouraged by Moubarek's initial support for the Camp David negotiation process and the peace treaty. This meeting and Moubarek's interview with an Israeli newspaper seem to have calmed initial Israeli apprehension about the depth of his commitment to Sadat's peace policies.

Nevertheless, the Israeli leadership remains concerned about Moubarek's longer term ability to consolidate power.

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Soviets Keeping Door Open

Soviet media are repeating Arab calls for Sadat's successors to repudiate his policies. These include statements from Libya, Iraq, Syria, and Jordan, as well as from PLO leader Arafat and former Egyptian Chief of Staff Shazli. The Soviets, however, have not carried the most offensive comments of some Arab leaders, nor are they gloating over the assassination. [REDACTED]

Moscow has indirectly criticized Moubarek by pointing to Washington's and Tel Aviv's "satisfaction" with his reaffirmation of Sadat's policies. At the same time, the Soviets have been careful to keep the door open to Cairo, stating that the USSR "has always been a supporter of friendly and equitable cooperation with Egypt." [REDACTED]

Moscow is claiming that Sadat's assassination caused "nervous shock" and "veritable pandemonium" in Washington. Some articles charge that the US, through its alert of some military forces in the area, is using Sadat's death to increase its "crude interference in Arab affairs." [REDACTED]

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